(d) Although during the year 2007, the country earned an amount of US$ 1.38 million (Rs. 570.51 Lakh) from export of ornamental fish, these two completed units are at a test marketing stage and it is expected that there would be significant contribution to exports after these units start commercial production.

Shortage of fertilizers in Maharashtra

29. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra State has in a communication urged him to take effective measures to ease up the situation regarding fertilizers;

(b) whether the State Government has also taken serious view on those who were indulging in creating artificial fertilizer shortage;

(c) whether Government has also asked concerned authorities to inspect warehouses, godowns where black marketers had hoarded fertilizers creating shortage;

(d) if so, whether fertilizer shortage has created unrest among the farmers in the State; and

(e) if so, what is the total quantity of fertilizers released by the Centre to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) Maharashtra Government have replied in affirmative.

(d) and (e) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Union Government ensures availability of urea at State level. State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. All other fertilizers *viz.* DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply.

The table below gives the details of demand and supply of urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers in the States of Maharashtra during Kharif 2008 season:

('000 MT)

State	Particulars	Urea	DAP	MOP	Complex
Maharashtra	Demand/ Assessed requirement	1425.00	475.00	170.00	965.00
	Supply (Availability)	1436.12	533.17	268.80	616.63
	Sales	1399.88	532.22	261.07	612.19

As can be seen, there is no shortage of Urea, DAP and MOP in Maharashtra. However, the component 'P' has been compensated by additional supplies of DAP to the tune of about 0.58 lakh MT to make up the shortage of complexes.